

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, and 12 are amended as indicated below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1 1. (currently amended) In a client-server environment, a method for
2 providing transparency in a gateway of an IP network comprising the steps of:

3 interrogating a directory comprising proxy server protocol data ~~for each~~
4 specific to every end-user network account of said IP network;

5 retrieving parameters associated with said proxy server protocol data for a
6 first end-user in response to an access request from a client application of said first
7 end-user;

8 accessing an application server on behalf of said client application in
9 accordance with said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

10 relaying data between said client application and said application server.

1 2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising
2 the step of:

3 creating, in said gateway of said IP network, the directory including entries ~~for~~
4 specific to every end-user network account on said IP network.

1 3. (original) The method according to claim 1 further comprising the step of:

2 updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-users, said
3 step of updating the directory including the steps of:

4 disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

5 enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

6 updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic parameters
7 whenever said parameters are changing while connected.

1 4. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of
2 retrieving parameters associated with proxy server protocol data for said first end-
3 user includes the steps of:

4 obtaining leading data from said client application having issued said access
5 request for said end-user;

6 parsing said leading data;

7 determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8 interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first end-user;

9 retrieving parameters associated with said protocol; and

10 executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with
11 said protocol.

1 5. (original) The method according to claim 1 further including the step of
2 informing said end-user of said client application that a server application is
3 unavailable if a link to said application server is not established.

1 6. (currently amended) A data processing system for providing a gateway of
2 an IP network, comprising:

3 circuitry operable for interrogating a directory comprising proxy server
4 protocol data ~~for each~~ specific to every end-user network account of said IP network;

5 circuitry operable for retrieving parameters associated with said proxy server
6 protocol data for a first end-user in response to an access request from a client
7 application of said first end-user;

8 circuitry operable for accessing an application server on behalf of said client
9 application in accordance with said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

10 circuitry operable for relaying data between said client application and said
11 application server.

1 7. (currently amended) The system according to claim 6 further comprising:

2 circuitry operable for creating, in said gateway of said IP network, the
3 directory including entries ~~for~~ specific to every end-user network account on said IP
4 network.

1 8. (original) The system according to claim 6 further comprising:

2 circuitry operable for updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory
3 of said end-users, said circuitry operable for updating the directory including:

4 circuitry operable for disabling entries for those of said end-users that
5 disconnect;

6 circuitry operable for enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect;
7 and

8 circuitry operable for updating said entries of said end-users comprising
9 dynamic parameters whenever said parameters are changing while connected.

1 9. (previously presented) The system according to claim 6 wherein the circuitry
2 operable for retrieving parameters associated with said end-user for said access
3 request from said client application includes:

4 circuitry operable for obtaining leading data from said client application
5 having issued said access request for said end-user;

6 circuitry operable for parsing said leading data;

7 circuitry operable for determining a protocol said client application is
8 currently using;

9 circuitry operable for interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to
10 said first end-user; and

11 circuitry operable for retrieving parameters associated with said protocol;

12 executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with
13 said protocol.

1 10. (original) The system according to claim 6 further including the circuitry
2 operable for informing said end-user of said client application that a server
3 application is unavailable if a link to said application server is not established.

1 11. (currently amended) A computer program product embodied in a tangible
2 storage medium, the program product for providing transparency in a gateway of an
3 IP network, the program product including a program of instructions for performing
4 the steps of:

5 interrogating a directory comprising proxy server protocol data ~~for each~~
6 specific to every end-user network account of said IP network;

7 retrieving parameters associated with said proxy server protocol data for a
8 first end-user in response to an access request from a client application of said first
9 end-user;

10 accessing an application server on behalf of said client application in
11 accordance with said retrieved parameters for said first end-user; and

12 relaying data between said client application and said application server.

1 12. (currently amended) The computer program product according to claim 11,
2 further comprising instructions for performing the step of:

3 creating, in said gateway of said IP network, the directory including entries ~~for~~
4 specific to every end-user network account on said IP network.

1 13. (original) The program product according to claim 11 further comprising
2 instructions for performing the step of:

3 updating, in said gateway of said network, the directory of said end-users, said
4 step of updating the directory including the steps of:

5 disabling entries for those of said end-users that disconnect;

6 enabling entries for those of said end-users that connect; and

7 updating said entries of said end-users comprising dynamic parameters
8 whenever said parameters are changing while connected.

1 14. (previously presented) The program product according to claim 11 wherein
2 the step of retrieving parameters associated with said end-user for said access request
3 from said client application includes the steps of:

4 obtaining leading data from said client application having issued said access
5 request for said end-user;

6 parsing said leading data;

7 determining a protocol said client application is currently using;

8 interrogating said directory at an entry corresponding to said first end-user;

9 retrieving parameters associated with said protocol; and

10 executing said protocol in accordance with said parameters associated with
11 said protocol.

1 15. (original) The program product according to claim 11 further including
2 instructions for performing the step of informing said end-user of said client
3 application that a server application is unavailable if a link to said application server
4 is not established.